WC-207 AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION

AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION

Instructions: This form shall not be filed with the Board, unless otherwise requested

TO:		
Print Name and Title		
Address		
City	State	Zip Code

RE: Employee / Patient		
Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Social Security Number	Date of Injury	Birthdate

This document authorizes the release of only those medical records related to the injury which is the subject of this claim for workers' compensation benefits and may be required at any time during the pendancy of the claim. The above-stated entity, facility or medical practitioner is authorized to release

information to _____ in accordance with applicable State and Federal laws.

The information covered by this Authorization and Consent to Release is that authorized by O.C.G.A. §34-9-207 which reads as follows:

> "When an employee has submitted a claim for workers' compensation benefits or is receiving payment of weekly income benefits or the employer has paid any medical expenses, that employee shall be deemed to have waived any privilege or confidentiality concerning any communications related to the claim or history or treatment of injury arising from the incident that the employee has had with any physician, including, but not limited to, communications with psychiatrists or psychologist. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, when requested by the employer any physician who has examined, treated, or tested the employee or consulted about the employee shall provide within a reasonable time and for a reasonable charge all information and records related to an examination, treatment, testing, or consultation concerning the employee."
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> "When an employee has submitted a claim for workers' compensation benefits or is receiving payment of weekly income benefits or the employer has paid any medical expenses, the employee shall provide the employer with a signed release for medical records and information related to the claim or history or treatment of injury arising from the incident, including information related to the treatment for any mental condition or drug or alcohol abuse. Said release shall designate the provider and shall state that it will expire on the date of the hearing. If the employee refuses to provide a signed release for medical information as required by this subsection, any weekly income benefits being received by the employee shall be suspended and no hearing shall be scheduled at the request of the employee until such signed release is provided."

The patient completely releases the entity, facility, or medical practitioner from any and all liability which may result or could result from the release of such information. This release is in compliance with Federal regulations (42 CFR Part 2), and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). 45 CFR 164.512(1) which reads as follows: *The covered entity may disclose protected health information as authorized by and to the extent necessary to comply with laws relating to workers' compensation or other similar programs, established by law, that provide benefits for work-related illnesses or injury without regard to fault.* Anyone who receives information under this document receives the same under all protection of Federal and State law inuring to the patient.

This release shall expire in 90 days or upon written notice of revocation by the patient, whichever is later. If a hearing is pending, this release shall remain in effect until and shall expire on the date the hearing is held.

Employee / Patient Signature	Date

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE STATE BOARD OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION AT 404-656-3818 OR 1-800-533-0682 OR VISIT http://www.sbwc.georgia.gov

WILLFULLY MAKING A FALSE STATEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING OR DENYING BENEFITS IS A CRIME SUBJECT TO PENALTIES OF UP TO $10,000.00 PER VIOLATION (O.C.G.A. §34-9-18 AND §34-9-19).